EQUISETUM fluviatile.

Sp. Pl. 1517. *Flo. Ang.* 448. *Scot.* 649. *Cant.* 385. *Ray Syn.* 130. *Hall. Hiſt.* 1675. *Ger. Em.* 1113. *Park.* 1290.

TAB. XXXVI. XXXVII.

RIVER HORSETAIL.

FROM a jointed, black, fibrous, creeping root, as in the other ſpecies, the fertile ſhoots, a. make their appearance in April; they are at firſt ſurrounded by large, rough, huſky, imbricated, brown vaginæ; each divided in about twenty-four long, narrow, pointed, ruſt-coloured ſegments; from the uppermoſt of theſe the flower ſpike is produced.

The ſhields at firſt are ſmooth, cloſely compacted together, and of a brown colour.

The ſpikes, when full grown, are three inches long, and of a proportionable thickneſs; the ſeminal valves are white, and when the ſpike is in full blow it makes an elegant appearance.

The fertile ſtems, A, grow about a foot high, and conſiſt of eight or nine vaginated joints, but produce no ſecond leaves.

BARREN